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PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON SENTENCING

April 22, 1994

Mr. Conrad Mayer, Environmental Division Director Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command 10 Industrial Highway Mail Stop 82 Lester, PA 19113-2097

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I continue to hear concerns from constituents in the Flying Heels section of Warminster who fear they are at risk from well-water contamination, possibly from sites at the Naval Air Warfare Center.

It was my understanding that because a well in that neighborhood was found to be contaminated with TCE in a quantity exceeding the federal maximum containment level, nearby wells would continue to be monitored. I believe that until the Navy can prove to the residents' satisfaction that it is not to blame for contamination, monitoring should continue and steps taken to ensure that these families are not at risk.

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter sent to the Public Affairs Officer at the NAWC from the pediatrician of one of the families in that neighborhood. In it he cites grave concern about the health of pregnant women, infants and children exposed to the contaminant found in this family's well. Neither the Navy, nor the EPA, has been able to state with certainty that the wells in this vicinity will not be affected in the future. The families must continue to use bottled water or live in constant fear of ingesting harmful chemicals. And the use of bottled water doesn't address data which suggests that the chemicals can be harmful if inhaled as steam or absorbed by the skin.

Because medical experts warn of the seriousness of long-term contact with this chemical - even with low doses - it is irresponsible to allow the situation to continue. The only true safeguard and permanent solution is to provide public water to this neighborhood, as you have done in nearby areas. The government cannot continue to play roulette with the health of these people.

Sincerely.

Stewart J. Greenleaf

SJG/rf